

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 EURE-00 /069 W

-----091823Z 089665 /40

P R 091555Z MAR 77

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3207

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 3237

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CIEC, EEC

SUBJECT: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL, MARCH 8, 1977: CIEC

REF: EC BRUSSELS 2085

1. THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS DID NOT ENGAGE IN A SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF CIEC ISSUES DURING THEIR MARCH 8 COUNCIL SESSION. NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES, HOWEVER, DID FIGURE IN THEIR DEBATE ON THE UNCTAD COMMON FUND (SEE SEPTTEL).

2. UK PERMDEL OFFICIALS HAVE GIVEN US THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE FOR EC CIEC PREPARATIONS: 1) THE EC COMMISSION WILL LIKELY SUBMIT ITS PROPOSALS FOR A FINAL CIEC PACKAGE ON ABOUT MARCH 17 (SEE REFTTEL); 2) THE EC COUNCIL HIGH LEVEL CIEC GROUP WIL DISCUSS THESE PROPOSALS ALONG WITH MAMBER STATE SUGGESTIONS ON MARCH 18; 3) EC COUNCIL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WORKING GROUPS WILL MEET TO REVIEW POSITIONS FOR THE FOUR CIEC COMMISSIONS; 4) THE MARCH 25-26 EUROPEAN COUNCIL WILL DISCUSS THE PROPOSED PACKAGE; 5) THE MARCH 31 COREPER WILL REVIEW MEMBER STATE POSITIONS; AND 6) THE APRIL 5 FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL WILL HOPEFULLY AGREE TO A FINAL PROPOSED PACKAGE.

3. FOREIGN MINISTERS DID NOT HAVE TIME TO FOCUS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF INCLUDING SPECIFIC CIEC ISSUES ON THE AGENDA OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL. FOR THIS REASON, UK PERMDEL OFFICIALS DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT WILL DISCUSS CIEC ISSUES IN DEPTH. UK OFFICIALS HOPE TO LIMIT THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL'S DEBATE OF CIEC BECAUSE THEY PREFER TO RELY ON THE FOREIGN MINISTERS TO PREPARE THE EC POSITION FOR CIEC. THEY ADD, HOWEVER, THAT THE FRG WILL LIKELY BE INFLUENTIAL IN DETERMINING THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL'S ROLE. HINTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ECBRU02262
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770081-0451
Format: TEL
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770379/aaaacrid.tel
Line Count: 72
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4f665ebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 EC BRUSSELS 2085
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3165237
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL, MARCH 8, 1977: CIEC
TAGS: PORG, EEC, CIEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4f665ebb-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009